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CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

72-HOUR REPORT

29 March 2021

(U) CALIFORNIA

(U) Sacramento - Man Gets Nine Years in Prison for More Than \$200K in EDD Fraud

(U) A Sacramento man was sentenced to more than nine years in prison for fraudulently claiming more than \$200,000 in EDD benefits, as well as a slew of other charges including drug and weapons possession. Walter Lee Dawson, 30, pleaded guilty and was sentenced to nine years and four months in prison on five counts of fraud for applying for unemployment benefits through the Employment Development Department (EDD). During a probation compliance search, deputies found nine EDD cards issued in different names as well as 20 additional EDD documents in other names.

SOURCE: 26 March 2021, <u>ABC10</u>

(U) San Francisco – Man Accused of Assaulting Asian Vet Charged with Hate Crime

(U) A 53-year-old man accused of using racist slurs while attacking an Asian American man is facing felony assault and hate crime charges. Victor Humberto Brown was initially booked on misdemeanor counts, but prosecutors recently elevated the case to a felony. Ron Tuason, an Army veteran of Filipino, Chinese, and Spanish descent, was at a bus stop in the Ingleside neighborhood when Brown approached him, yelling "Get out of my country" before using a racial slur meant to denigrate Asian people. Tuason said he suffered a black eye and a swollen cheek as a result of the attack.

SOURCE: 27 March 2021, NBC Bay Area

(U) Sonora – Student Arrested After High School Alerts Police to Threatening Messages

(U) Sonora police arrested a high school student for allegedly making threats against the school and other students. Police say they learned about the threats after being contacted by Sonora High School. According to police, the student may have even made statements that they would take a gun to school. During their investigation, they learned the student had sent "disturbing and threatening messages" through social media to other students. Police say they aren't sure what the student's motive may have been for sending the messages and that they will not be releasing any specific details about the threats. SOURCE: 27 March 2021, Fox40

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(U) SOUTHWEST BORDER

(U) Texas – US CBP Officers Seize Narcotics Worth More Than Seven Million in Street Value

(U) Laredo – The enforcement action occurred, when US Customs and Border Protection (CBP) officers assigned to the cargo facility encountered a tractor manifesting an industrial magnet arriving from Mexico. The 2014 Ford F350 truck and shipment were referred for a canine and non-intrusive imaging system inspection, resulting in the discovery of 104 packages containing 367.24-pounds of alleged methamphetamine within the shipment. The narcotics have an estimated street value of \$7,344,845. SOURCE: 27 March 2021, CBP

(U) NATIONAL

(U) District of Columbia - Far-Right Extremists Move from 'Stop the Steal' to 'Stop the Vaccine'

(U) Washington – Adherents of far-right groups have repeatedly turned to the federal database showing deaths and adverse reactions nationwide among people who have received COVID-19 vaccinations. Rare

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negative reactions are used by extremist groups to try to bolster a rash of false and alarmist disinformation in articles and videos with titles like "COVID-19 Vaccines Are Weapons of Mass Destruction." Criticizing the safety and efficacy of vaccines is occurring in chatrooms frequented by many right-wing groups including the Proud Boys, the Boogaloo movement, and various paramilitary organizations.

SOURCE: 26 March 2021, New York Times

(U) Florida – Man who Fired Gun at Everglades Park Rangers Captured

(U) Everglades National Park – A man who fired a gun at Everglades National Park rangers was involved in a domestic violence situation at the park earlier in the day, the park said. The suspect, described as a 33-year-old man, was taken into custody. The suspect left the scene of a domestic violence situation before rangers arrived; his vehicle was found unoccupied on the main park road. Rangers believed the suspect was armed and in the woods. Shots were fired at law enforcement rangers around 6:45 p.m. The man was captured just before 9 p.m. Miami-Dade police, fire rescue, as well as the FBI and CBP assisted the park in the incident, the statement said.

SOURCE: 29 March 2021, AP News

(U) Oregon – Man Arrested with 65-Pounds of Cocaine in Car

(U) Portland – A California man was arrested with over 65-pounds of cocaine after a traffic stop in Jackson County. Oregon State Police say a trooper pulled over 52-year-old Gerardo Avila Soriano in a 2021 Ford Explorer for following too close on I-5. The trooper noticed something suspicious and searched Soriano's car. He discovered 'suspected' cocaine in 'natural voids' of the rear doors of the car. Soriano was booked into Jackson County Jail for unlawful possession and delivery of cocaine. SOURCE: 26 March 2021, KOIN6

(U) Texas – Man who Held up Army National Guard Convoy Charged

(U) Lubbock – Larry Lee Harris, 66, was charged with assaulting a federal officer with a deadly weapon. Harris allegedly pointed a firearm at a three-van Army National Guard convoy engaged in official duties related to the COVID-19 national emergency. National Guard personnel reported that Harris began following them, identified himself as a detective, and allegedly approached the National Guard vehicles with a firearm drawn. Ranting about a missing 41-year-old-woman and a 12-year-old girl, he demanded to search the vans. If convicted, he faces up to 20-years in prison on the federal charge.

SOURCE: 26 March 2021, US DoJ

(U) INTERNATIONAL

(U) Canada – One Dead, Five Wounded in Stabbing at Library, Suspect in Custody

(U) Vancouver – One woman was killed, and five others were wounded in a stabbing at a public library located near a busy shopping area and police said they had the lone suspect in custody. The attack occurred in the early afternoon and investigators appealed for witnesses, especially those who had shot videos that later posted on social media. "We have six victims who sustained stab wounds. We have a victim who has sadly succumbed to injuries," police said. While there was no report on his condition, Jang said that the suspect has a criminal record.

SOURCE: 27 March 2021, Reuters

(U) Indonesia - Suicide Bomb Hits Palm Sunday Mass, 20 Wounded

(U) Makassar – Two attackers blew themselves up outside a packed Roman Catholic cathedral during a Palm Sunday Mass on Indonesia's Sulawesi island, wounding at least 20 people, police said. Security guards at the church were suspicious of two men on a motorcycle who wanted to enter the building and when they went to confront them, one of the men detonated his explosives. Police later said both

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attackers were killed instantly, and evidence collected at the scene indicated one of the two was a woman. The wounded included four guards and several churchgoers, police said. SOURCE: 26 March 2021, ABC News

(U) Lebanon – US-Backed Syrian Forces Raid Camp of ISIS Families, Arrest Nine

(U) Beirut – Thousands of Kurdish-led forces, with assistance from the U.S.-led coalition, launched a military operation at a sprawling camp in northeast Syria, in a new effort to identify and arrest Islamic State in Iraq and ash-Sham (ISIS) militants and tamp down escalating killings and violence in the camp. The Kurdish-led forces said they have nearly 5,000 fighters participating in the operation and that they arrested nine people, including an Iraqi IS member who worked in recruitment. The al-Hol camp houses some 62,000 people, including wives and children of ISIS members.

SOURCE: 28 March 2021, US News

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